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1972

BOROUGH OF NEWPORT

ISLE OF WIGHT

THE ANNUAL REPORT

of

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

including the Report of

THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1972

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BOROUGH OF NEWPORT, I.W.

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1972 - 1973

Chairman - Mrs. D.M.E. Krishnamma

Vice-Chairman - W.J. McKeown, Esq, J.P.

The Mayor : Councillor J.E. Messenger

Ald. A.J. Chalmers, C.C.

Ald. H.E. Harvey, C.C.

M.G. Barton, Esq.

H. Bowen, Esq.

T.P. Cunningham, Esq.

R.W. Ford, Esq,

B.R. Greening, Esq.

D.G. Simms, Esq

P.W. Swann, Esq. A.I.A.S, M.R.S.H.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

County Hall
Newport, I.W.

Tel: Newport 4031

To His Worship The Mayor, and to the Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Newport, Isle of Wight.

MR MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the Year 1972.

During the year there were 278 births and the comparative birth rate (14.7) was the lowest since 1959. This low rate was, however, in accordance with the national trend and is not suprising in view of the improved family planning services now available both on the Island and elsewhere. There were only twenty illegitimate births compared with thirty-one in the previous year and the illegitimacy rate (7.2%) compared favourably with the rate for England and Wales (8.6%).

While the infant morality rate (21.6) was an improvement on 1971 (27.1) it was still above the figure for the rest of the country (17.2), which was, however, the lowest on record. The total of all deaths was 340 and the comparative death rate (10.7) was once again below the national figure (12.1).

The notification of infectious diseases gave no cause for concern. Fifty-six cases of measles were reported and the graph provided on page 3 which illustrates the incidence of this disease in the borough in recent years, is of interest. In earlier years there was a peak more or less every two years, which up to now had been the normal pattern for the epidemiology of this infection. The peaks are now beginning to show signs of disappearing and, although we still have some way to go, eradication of measles is at least in sight. It is well demonstrated in Newport due to the conscientious efforts of family doctors in the field of immunisation.

It is not possible to provide details of the incidence of venereal infection in the Borough as such diseases are not notifiable. We do know however that total attendances at special clinics both on the Island and elsewhere are on the increase. This is alleged to be due to increased promiscuity but is partly due, at least, to the fact that young people are becoming more sensible in their attitude to the need for early expert treatment. As such early treatment is a major control measure the council agreed during the year to posters being displayed in public conveniences and other suitable sites, informing the public when and where to go for advice.

As this is my last Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health I should like to pay special tribute to Mr F.K. Aze and his staff for their effective and loyal service during my term of office. I should also like to record my appreciation of the patient and considerate way in which your housing manager, Mr R.J. Fairweather, has endeavoured to deal with the very many requests made through me for council accommodation on health grounds.

Although reorganisation will result in major changes and may cause some confusion in the early stages, I am confident that due to the good working relationships we have established in the Health Services of the Isle of Wight, that both during and after the upheaval it will be "Business as usual".

To the Chairman and members of the Health Committee I respectfully express once again my appreciation for the encouragement and support given throughout the year.

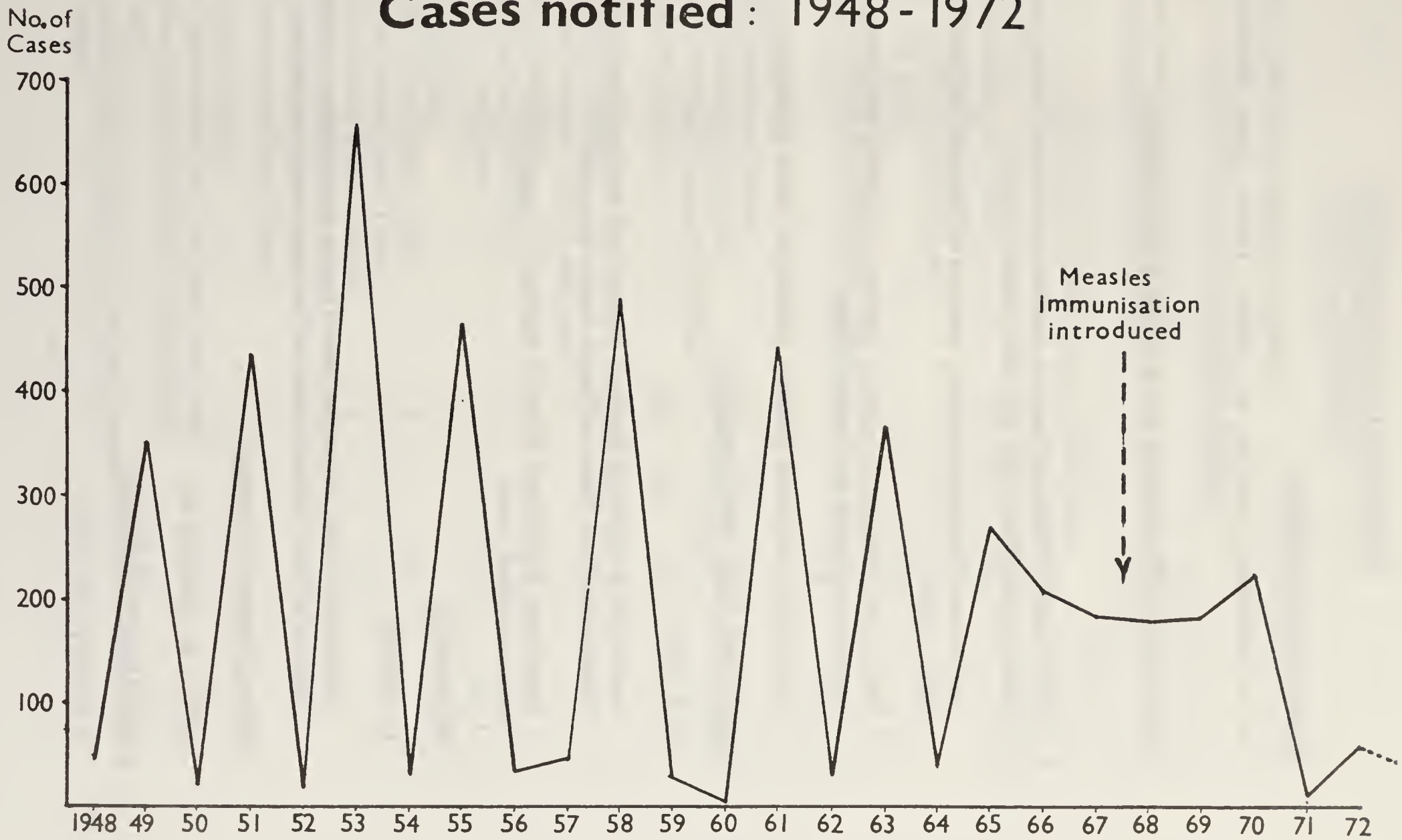
Yours faithfully

Douglas Quantill

Medical Officer of Health

MEASLES. NEWPORT, I.W.

Cases notified: 1948 - 1972



PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS 1972

Medical Officer of Health:

D.W. QUANTRILL, MB, Ch. B., MRCS., LRCP., DPH., DTM & H., D. Obst. RCOG.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Meat and Food Inspector:

F.K. AZE

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board as Public Health Inspector.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute in Sanitary science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Smoke Inspector.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

H.S. BULL

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board as Public Health Inspector.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Meat Inspector

G. WOODS

Certificate in Meat Inspection issued by the Royal Society of Health
Diploma in Food Hygiene issued by the Royal Society of Health

Clerical/Technical Assistant:

MRS L.M. BIRD, B.Sc.

Rodent Operator/Foreman

R.J. PHILLIPS

GENERAL STATISTICS

Population (Registrar General's Estimate)	22,260
Area (in acres)	15,530
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1972) as per rate books	7,164
Rateable Value, as at April 1st, 1972	£933,708
Sum represented by 1d rate (1971-72)	£ 9,044

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS:	M	F	Newport M.B.	England & Wales
No. of live legitimate births	136	122	258	
No. of live illegitimate births	13	7	20	
Rate per 1,000 population (crude)			12.5	14.8
Comparative factor			1.18	1.0
Comparative Birth Rate			14.7	14.7
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births			7.2	8.6
STILLBIRTHS				
No. of legitimate stillbirths	2	2	4	
No. of illegitimate stillbirths	-	-	-	
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths			14.2	12.0
Total live and stillbirths	151	131	282	
DEATHS				
Total number of deaths	162	178	340	
Crude death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population			15.3	12.1
Comparative factor (deaths)			0.70	1.0
Comparative Death Rate			10.7	12.1
INFANT DEATHS				
Legitimate infants under 1 year	6	-	6	
Illegitimate infants under 1 year	-	-	-	
Legitimate infants under 4 weeks	5	-	5	
Illegitimate infants under 4 weeks	-	-	-	
Legitimate infants under 1 week	5	-	5	
Illegitimate infants under 1 week	-	-	-	
Infant Morality Rates:				
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births			21.6	17.2
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births			23.3	17.0
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births			Nil	21.0

	Newport M.B.	England & Wales
Neo-natal morality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	17.9	11.5
Early neo-natal morality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	17.9.	10.0
Peri-natal morality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	31.9	21.7
Maternal morality (including abortion) rate	Nil	0.15

CAUSES OF DEATH	Male	Female
Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	3
" " intestine	2	5
" " lung, bronchus	14	2
" " breast	-	6
" " Uterus	-	2
" " prostrate	3	-
Leukaemia	1	2
Other malignant neoplasms	4	8
Benign and unspecified Neoplasms	-	2
Diabetes Mellitus	-	1
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	1	3
Mental Disorders	2	1
Other diseases of nervous system, etc.	1	2
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	1	-
Hypertensive disease	3	1
Ischaemic heart disease	35	31
Other forms of heart disease	9	11
Cerebrovascular disease	20	43
Other diseases of circulatory system	15	21
Pneumonia	12	15
Bronchitis and Emphysema	14	3
Other diseases of repiratory system	1	1
Peptic Ulcer	2	1

	Male	Female
Intestinal obstruction and Hernia	2	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	1
Other diseases of Digestive System	-	2
Nephritis & Nephrosis	1	-
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	2	3
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal system	-	1
Congenital anomalies	3	-
Birth injury, difficult labour etc.	2	-
Symptons and ill defined conditions	4	3
Motor vehicle accidents	-	-
All other accidents	-	1
All other external causes	1	-
ALL CAUSES ...	162	178

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR 1972

Age	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Dysentery	Tuberculosis : Pulmonary
Under 1 year	-	2	-	-
1 - 2 years	-	3	-	-
2 - 3 years	-	5	-	-
3 - 4 years	-	10	-	-
4 - 5 years	1	4	-	-
5 - 10 years	-	30	-	-
10 - 15 years	-	1	-	-
15 - 20 years	-	-	-	-
20 - 25 years	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 years	-	1	-	-
35 - 45 years	-	-	1	1
45 - 55 years	-	-	-	-
55 - 65 years	-	-	-	-
65 years and over	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	56	1	1

No cases of Food Poisoning were notified during the year

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, ETC

Inspections under the Housing Acts	187
Inspections under the Public Health Acts	251
Drainage	279
Caravan Sites	38
Atmospheric Pollution	21
Verminous Premises	16
Swimming Pools	22
Factories	18
Food Preparation Premises	270
Foodshops and Stores	224
Bakeries	20
Milk and Dairies	11
Slaughterhouses	910
Rodent Control (Supervisory Visits)	21
Shops Act	18
Noise Abatement	43
Refuse Collection and Disposal	402
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	251
Knacker's Yard	3
Water Supply	12
Miscellaneous	148
	3,165

Statutory Notices Served - Public Health Acts	4
Informal Notices Served	72
Notices complied with	61
Nuisances Abated	51
Complaints Received	114
Water Samples	
(a) Drinking Water	84
(b) Swimming Pools	12

FOOD

MEAT INSPECTION

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horse
No Killed	2,199	356	526	2,613	24,887	-
No Inspected	2,199	356	526	2,613	24,887	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcases condemned	4	11	15	4	196	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	401	274	5	96	1,059	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	18.4	80	3.8	3.8.	5	-
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	- 1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	148	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.6	-
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3		-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	3		-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

	Tons	Cwt	Qrs	Lbs
Total meat condemned	23	9	1	8
Other foodstuffs	7	2	2	13
	30	11	3	21

In addition, 1,326 tins of miscellaneous foodstuffs were destroyed.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

The following slaughterhouses were licenced for the year 1972:

1. Heytesbury Slaughterhouse, Worsley Road, Newport, occupied by F M C (Meat) Ltd.

2. 35-43 Scarrots Lane, Newport, occupied by Bennett & Hamilton Ltd.

910 visits were made to slaughterhouses in connection with meat inspection and licensing.

The number of slaughtermen licenced by the Council was 27.

Now that we have entered the E E C it will become more than ever necessary to investigate the needs of the Island with regard to slaughtering facilities. With this in view the Council have already purchased two acres of land on the Newport Industrial Site and no doubt the new Medina District Council will be giving consideration as to whether or not to construct a modern abattoir up to British and Continental standards.

KNACKER'S YARD

The following knacker's yard was licenced for the year 1972:

Park Green Farm, Forest Road, Carisbrooke, occupied by A and D Biles, Trafalgar Cottage, Union Street, Newport.

FOOD PREMISES

Food Trade	No. of Premises
Bakehouses	3
Bread and Cakeshops	5
Butchers	16
Canteens	8
Confectioners Shops (including ice cream)	21
Dairies	6
Fishmongers	4
Fried Fish Shops	5
Greengrocers	16
Grocers	54
Hotels	7
Licenced Premises	52
Cafes and Restaurants	34

Five hundred and twenty five visits were made during the year to all types of food premises. Some visits were routine and some were to follow up and secure compliance with notices. Others were on account of rodent or other infestations.

Proposed alterations and improvements are carefully vetted before work is commenced so as to secure the best results and to ensure that all aspects of legislation are complied with and to the highest possible standard.

Clean food and clean food premises are not only the concern of the Council and the trader; they are very much the concern of the customer, and customer resistance to unsatisfactory conditions can play its part in securing improvements.

HOUSING

No slum clearance work has been undertaken during the year and as I said in my report for 1971 emphasis has again been on improvement and reconditioning of dwellings.

RODENT AND INSECT PEST CONTROL

The following inspections under part 1 of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 were carried out during the year:-

Local Authority Premises	115
Dwelling Houses	1042
Business Premises	506
Agriculture Premises	127

A total of 1011 treatments by poisoning with warfarin was carried out to deal with rats and mice in premises of all kinds. 3 ships were inspected on behalf of the Cowes Port Health Authority in connection with Rodent Control Certificates and 63 contracts for rodent control in business premises were in operation.

Ants and cockroaches accounted for the majority of complaints concerning insect infestations - 78 cases were treated. Considerably fewer wasps nests were reported in 1972 - only 23 this year compared with 92 in 1971. In addition, 14 cases of beetles, flies, mosquitoes, etc., were dealt with and 16 flea infestations were successfully treated.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

A weekly collection of domestic refuse is provided for all dwellings in the district with the exception of 19 outlying dwellings which have a fortnightly collection.

Trade refuse from town shops is collected from three to five times per week.

The service employs fourteen men.

Every Saturday, and on some evenings, bulky items of unwanted domestic refuse are collected free of charge. The service is well used and appreciated and there is no need and no excuse for unsightly dumping in the countryside.

Refuse Collection is by three 35/50 cu. yd. Dennis continuous loaders, one 18/25 cu. yd. Dennis continuous loaders (reserve) and one 12 cu. yd. side loader. Two new Dennis "Bulkmasters" were ordered in December for delivery early in 1973.

For the first four months of 1972 refuse disposal was again by crude tipping at Briddlesford. From May onwards the new refuse disposal pulverisation plant was opened at Stag Lane and this plant serves Newport Borough Council, Cowes Urban District Council and a part of the Rural District Council. It is controlled by the Newport Joint Refuse Disposal Committe and each of the Council s using the plant will be paying on a pro rata population basis during the first year of operation and on a tonnage basis after the first year. Adjacent to the plant is a large marl hole which is leased to the Joint Committee and is used for the dumping of pulverised refuse.

The Borough Council still own and use the Briddlesford tip as a reserve for the three districts.

WATER SUPPLIES

The water supplies to the Borough were satisfactory as regards quality and quantity. No contamination of any significance occurred.

83 Samples of water taken for bacterio-logical examination by the Isle of Wight River and Water Authority were all found to be satisfactory.

No samples were taken for chemical analysis during the year. The sources of water were unchanged and the supply is hard and not liable to plumbo-solvency.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Reproduced below are the statistics as at 31 December 1972 from the Annual Report supplied to the Department of Employment:-

Class of Premises	No. Of Premises Newly Registered during 1972	No. of Registered Premises at end of year	No. of Registered Premises receiving General Inspections during year	No. of Persons Employed
Offices	9	109	22	736
Retail Shops	24	166	62	1007
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	2	20	6	327
Catering Establishments open to public, Canteens	1	21	3	151
Fuel Storage Depots	-	2	-	3
TOTALS	36	318	93	2224

Total Males Employed 976
Total Females Employed 1248
Total number of visits by Inspectors to registered premises 251

During the year eight accidents were reported; five occurred in warehouses, two in retail shops and one in a catering establishment. None of the accidents were caused by contraventions of the Act. However, two of the accidents which occurred in warehouses involved fork-lift trucks and it would appear that there is a continuing need for fork-lift truck operators to be made more aware of possible hazards and to take greater care at all times. The Road Transport Industry Training Board has recently produced a booklet entitled 'Guide to the Selection and Training of fork-lift truck drivers' which should prove valuable to managers of warehouses where fork-lift trucks are in use.
The booklet is being recommended to appropriate employers.

It is difficult to establish what percentage (if any) of accidents which result in an employee being disabled for more than three days, go unreported as there is no way of checking on figures. However, in the course of inspections, employers are reminded of their obligations and it is hoped that this has resulted in all appropriate accidents being notified so that meaningful and accurate figures appear in the annual returns.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health

PART 1 OF THE ACT — INSPECTIONS

Premises	No on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	-	-	
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sect 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	137	18	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sect 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	6	-	-	-
TOTAL	154	18	1	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	No of Prosecutions
Want of Cleanliness (S 1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S 2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S 3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S 4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S 6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S 7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	2	-	2	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORKERS

Nature of Work	SECTION 110			SECTION 111		
	No of out-workers in August list required by Sec 133 (1)(c)	No of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prose-Cutions
Wearing apparel, Making etc.	3	-	-	-	-	-